AGREEMENT SIGNED ON PURCHASING SOYA ROUGHAGE FROM USA

VILNIUS, June 5, ELTA - The US Government allotted $10 million for Lithuania as a concessional loan to buy soya from USA for use a foughage for livestock. Lithuanian Agriculture Minister Vytautas Einoris and US Ambassador to Lithuania James W.Swihart signed the agreement for this loan with the Commodity Credit Corporation on Monday. This is the fourth loan granted by the US so that Lithuanian farmers can purchase soya roughage. The previous loans total $45 million. All loans are low interest with a 30 year payback period.

CONSERVATIVE PARTIES FROM BALTIC STATES MEET IN RIGA. The first meeting of conservative parties from the Baltic States was held in Riga on 2 June. Twelve parties were present, including the Estonian Independence Party, the Latvian National Conservative Party, and the Lithuanian Conservative Party. Representatives of the conservative parties, which are in opposition in all three Baltic States, pledged to meet regularly and cooperate on political and economic matters. They also announced plans to hold a seminar in Riga this August on the revival of totalitarian tendencies in the Baltics. -- Laura Belin, Copyright=A91995 Open Media Research Institute, Inc. All rights reserved.

KNIGHT-RIDDER FINANCIAL NEWS--London, Wednesday, Jun 7

LITHUANIA EIB CREDIT: The Lithuanian parliament has given the government the go-ahead to conclude an agreement with the European Investment Bank on a 17.5-million-dlr credit to be used for the reconstruction of the port at Klaipeda. Lithuania's Finance Ministry said the agreement was likely to be signed before the end of June. (Interfax)

SWEDEN LIKELY TO RETURN TAMIL REFUGEES TO LITHUANIA. Bjorn Weibo, head of the Swedish immigration board, said on 4 June that 29 Tamil refugees picked up the previous day on a 10-meter yacht adrift off the Swedish coast were likely to be returned to Lithuania, Western agencies reported. Swedish police arrested two Lithuanians on the yacht and charged them with smuggling illegal immigrants. Sweden is reluctant to return other refugees to Lithuania, fearing that they will be sent back to their native countries, where they risk persecution. Sweden, however, does not consider Tamils to be at risk in Sri Lanka and may try to discourage other refugees by sending them back to Lithuania. -- Saulius Girnius, Copyright(c)1995 Open Media Research Institute, Inc. All rights reserved.